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NSC BRIEFING

cabinet.

I.

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19 June 1957

On 14 June Haiti acquired its seventh government in six months when Chief-of-Staff General Antoine Kebreau ousted self-proclaimed

- Provisional President Daniel Fignole--now in exile in New York.

 A. New gov't is a 3-man junta headed by Kebreau, with all-officer
- II. Fignole's street mobs slow to react--took to streets on nights of 15-16 June.
 - A. In bloody street fighting, army stamped out rioting, jailed many leaders.
- III. New gov't may have better chance than its six predecessors,
 - A. Army is taking strong hand against all opposition.
 - B. Junta and cabinet apparently favoring presidential candidate

 Duvalier.
 - 1. Arresting leaders of groups supporting the other two main presidential aspirants--Déjoie and Jumelle.
 - C. Gov't contains both blacks and mulattoes and represents the three main regions (racial antagonism and regionalism are additional factors in present mess).
 - D. Fignole forces weakened by loss of leaders; probably can't bring off threatened general strike, but may cause more riots.
 - E. Most army officers appear to support Kebreau.
 - 1. Fignole adherents in enlisted corps kept in line by officers who control the arms and ammunition.
 - 2. Former Chief-of-Staff Cantave, main divisive influence, also exiled.
- V. Kebreau will not have clear sailing.
 - A. More politicking for presidency most immediate threat.
 - B. Haitian economy in sad shape, with gov't almost bankrupt.
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